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26 April 2006

STAFF MEETING/COMMANDERS CALL

Attendees: Colonel Ann Clark, Sidney Girardin, Major Karl Senior, 1st LT Christopher Hanson, LT Colonel David Campbell, 1st LT Marilyn Kelly, Captain Peter Kelly, Colonel William McManis, 1st LT Steve Rabideau, Captain Barbara Leary, Captain Richard Kramer, 1st LT Brian Holland, Colonel Esther Abrams and Gloria Hanson.

The meeting was begun at 1900 on 13 April 2006.

The first order of business was a Yeager Award presented to Gloria Hanson. A Commander's Commendation was presented to Captain Kramer in appreciation of his time as Wing Safety Officer. Certificates of Appointment as Squadron Commander were also given to Captain Kramer, Captain Scott Fortney (in absentia), Major Lloyd St. Louis (in absentia), Major Senior, Captain Kelly and 1st LT Rabideau. Wing Staff were presented with certificates of appointment for their position at Wing. The Wing Administrator designed the Certificates of Appointment and a certificate honoring members who have served CAP for 10-19 years. NHQ certificates for 20, 30, 40 and 50 years of service were also presented, with Captain Kramer taking possession of the certificates for the Burlington Senior Squadron so that his first duty as commander is to award certificates.

Captain Guy Rouelle is the new Standards and Evaluation Director. LT Colonel Madeline Chaffee has been reinstated as Wing Historian. LT Colonel Frank Harrigan will be the Wing Flight Surgeon. He is not able to do much, but will try to help. Call if you have questions about health issues. Colonel Esther Abrams and LT Colonel Robert Fiorenza are once again FROs, but are to be used ONLY in an emergency. Pilots should try to contact their local FROs first and other squadron FROs before Colonel Abrams or LT Colonel Fiorenza.

LT Colonel Campbell was awarded a \$1,000 grant for his service to Civil Air Patrol. He has some ways he would like to see it spent. One hope is that it can be used to buy foot pedals and yokes for VT002, VT009 and VT033. He would also like to purchase a laser printer for Wing headquarters. If there is money left over, he would like to purchase additional controllers for other squadrons.

The Wing website has been reorganized. There is password protection on most of the files on the Commander's page. These consist of the pilot information files and the directories (NER, CAP/USAF and Vermont Wing). The password can be obtained by calling the Wing Administrator. There are also statistics on Wing membership.

The reorganization of Springfield is going slow. There are new locks on the doors. One person who lives down the road has a key and LT Colonel Chaffee also has a key. LT Colonel Clarence Merritt is looking into communications with the help of 1st LT A.J. Murray and Major Steven Jeffrey. We are hoping that we can draw in some new members. There is now a glider in Springfield. New Hampshire will be carrying out the glider program, but it will be based in Vermont. We hope to have some glider flights soon.

Bennington is coming along. We don't have a charter there yet, but hope to have one in the near future.

Major Michael Davidson, Vice Commander, has requested a leave of absence until some personal issues are resolved. He hopes it won't be a long absence.

Captain Leary modeled a new exercise suit that was purchased for the cadets participating in the Color Guard Competition in Rhode Island on 19-21 May. She let everyone know that the commander's got a packet in their boxes with information and requirements for encampment. The current Form 31 is included and liability forms for DDR. Commanders should make copies as needed. 15 June is the last day for cadets to submit a form 31 to attend encampment. They should try to get them in soon. She is waiting for photos for the brochure and hopes to have them soon so that it can be finished. The Army Recruiters are ready to go. The dates were in place early, thanks to Sid Girardin. All paperwork for encampment should be sent to the Wing Administrator. Try to have the reverse flag on the BDUs. Make sure that all uniforms have the correct rank and insignia. The cost for encampment will be \$85. If a cadet really needs help, Wing or their squadron can help with the cost. The deposit will be \$50 with \$35 due by the first day of encampment. Seniors will pay \$50. If they are only going to be eating a meal or two, they will pay per meal. Encampment is open to other Wings. Max Lombardo from Rhode Island will be the Moral Leadership officer. The State Air Guard will be available for manning the Leadership Reaction Course. Senior members will be needed. If they would like to stay at the range, it is \$5 per night for the BOQ.

Colonel Clark handed around statistics on membership. Capital Composite Squadron has shown steady growth.

Colonel McManis stated that if the State Guard is needed, to contact him and he can make the arrangements. When the State Guard requests assistance, it is for senior members only, not cadets. They would like some help in restoring the historical plane. Norwich only got one flight. Nine were planned. He's had no success in arranging flights. It's been hard to get releases for the cadets.

LT Colonel Campbell hopes to have all of the squadrons inspected by the end of the year. The Burlington Senior Squadron is done. He went to Northeast Kingdom. He plans to do about one a month, skipping July and August and should have Springfield done in November. He hopes that he can help the squadrons to pass inspections. He will be giving them the questions that need to be answered. The Air Force will be inspecting Northeast Kingdom and Green Mountain on 24 and 25 April. Wing will be inspected on 26 April. He is here to help, please make use of him.

Sid Girardin and LT Colonel Campbell reminded squadrons to check their vehicles, especially tire pressure. The proper pressure should be inside the door. There could be different pressures for the front and back tires. The vehicles should also be cleaned inside and out. If

you need repairs, LT Colonel Daigle can get approval quickly if you get him the estimates. Sid let people know that if you have items that are not on any report, hide them. You don't want the inspector to see those items. Call or e-mail Sid with questions, but make sure to let Colonel Clark know or he will make sure that she is informed.

Captain Leary needs to know who the Deputy Commander of Cadets is for each unit and their e-mail address. Send the information to the Wing Administrator. She would like to keep them informed of encampment details and other issues.

1st LT Christopher Hanson mentioned a possible trip to an aviation museum in Connecticut. He offered to get details and find out what options they may have for cadets.

Major Karl Senor announced that they were planning to go to the Memorial Day ceremony at the Veterans Cemetery in Randolph. It is located near Vermont Technical College. He will try to get more information by 1 May. The color guard will be part of the ceremony. If you want to participate, you should arrive by 13:30.

Captain Richard Kramer reported that he has no news yet for his new squadron. He has a lot of catch-up flying to do and is willing to do Form 5 and check rides.

1st LT Bryan Holland reported that a new member, John Kearney, is a glider pilot. He is willing to help, but he is not yet over 21. He needs approval on Form 5 and can start next weekend. There is money in the budget as National is paying. He would like to see cadets do all the flights, there are five in all. Morrisville has an instructional glider. Tows are \$38 each. There is always a tow plane available. Springfield will be the same. They both have commercial operations. We can use the 172s and 182s to tow the gliders and National will reimburse us. It should be run by Dale Hardy. We need to try to work it out so that the FBO is paid quickly. Will they bill? People can e-mail 1st LT Holland to schedule flights. New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Vermont and maybe New York pilots will be available. We could also have power o-flights. Maybe we should try another glider weekend. Make it more of a region activity. 1st LT Holland wondered if it would be a problem having two operations. Colonel Clark stated that we must support the Wing operation first.

1st LT Marilyn Kelly reported on the Open House. They are also working on their communications. Not too many people responded about the NIMs testing. There will be a professional tester. Only one response. Why not go for both the test and open house? Many people are only planning on the open house. They hope to have o-flights. The Northeast Kingdom color guard will be performing at the Memorial Day parade. They learned a lot at the competition. The hangar is looking good. There was a great article in the local paper. Cadets are doing recruiting on their own by wearing the uniform to school, which generates interest.

1st LT Steve Rabideau reported that the Rutland Composite squadron has a very busy May. There are 22 cadets participating in the Loyalty Day parade on 7 May. The color guard competition is 19-21 May. There will be a team in the Burlington marathon. This is the third year they have competed. It is on Memorial Day weekend.

Colonel Esther Abrams announced new additions to the Wing website. There are now guidelines for reimbursed missions. They are on the forms page. There is also a new VTCAPF 7, Cadet Orientation Flight Consolidation Report. It can be filled in online, saved and then

printed. It can be e-mailed to Wing. Colonel Abrams will get the information to National; just get these new forms to her.

1st LT Hanson offered to distribute safety briefings via e-mail. These can then be printed, read, signed and faxed back to Wing. This would help to alleviate the delay in sending in the reports. Colonel Clark asked him to do a sample one and see how it works out. Colonel Abrams suggested that topics only be sent; don't do the work for them. New Hampshire does a similar program. He should try to find topics that building learning experience.

Capital is getting ready for the SUL. Everyone is working on their areas to be able to answer the questions. The cadets are very active with First Aid/CPR training coming up.

On 30 June, the Pilot Association has invited the Northeast Kingdom to their open house and will allow them to set up a recruiting booth. Colonel Clark suggested that they check to see if we could bring up one of the planes.

Sid Girardin reminded everyone to make sure to check the vehicles and to hide what you don't want seen during the inspection. He said that everyone in Wing should be proud of the training program for the G1000 compiled by Captains Guy Rouelle and William Ameden. They have fit the program to Vermont's needs. Units should look at CAPR 67-1. This will help them to get ready for inspections. He will try to show up at least one Thursday per month from now on.

Not much is happening with the hyper spectral imaging. We may need to have crews trained. At least one or two per state. There should be funding available. This is a good recruiting tool. There is only one working in the U.S. at the moment.

The meeting concluded at 2030.